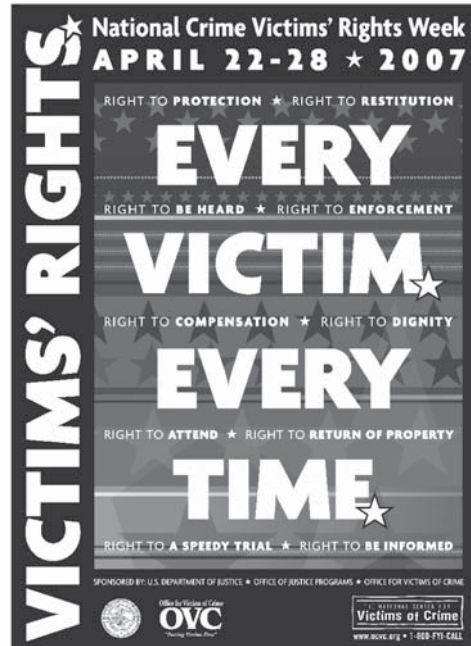




Nation Set to Honor Crime Victims

Each April since 1981, National Crime Victim's Rights Week (NCVRW) has been held to promote and offer a unique opportunity to raise public awareness about the impact of crime, victims' rights, and the vital need for victim services.

This year, during the week of April 22-28, thousands of people who have been victims of crime will be honored across the country. There will be public rallies, forums and public awareness activities sponsored throughout counties in Michigan. A candlelight vigil is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25 at 6 p.m. in the rotunda area of the State Capitol and is open to anyone



who would like to attend.

This year's theme is, "Victims' Rights: Every Victim. Every Time." It summons our nation to advance the rights of victims and expand the services needed to rebuild their lives. It reminds us that every victim deserves respect and compassion, assistance to recover from the impact of the crime and full access to the criminal justice system. It speaks to a society that powerfully and systematically supports victims of crime – regardless of their circumstances.

-see **CRIME VICTIMS**, page 3

Facility Facts: *Riverside Correctional Facility and Michigan Reformatory*

In light of the recent announcement that the Michigan Reformatory will reopen and the Riverside Correctional Facility will close by October 1, here's a bit of historical information on both*:

Riverside Correctional Facility

What we know as Riverside Correctional Facility today began as a psychiatric hospital. The building of the Ionia State Hospital was authorized in 1883 and was opened under the name of the Michigan Asylum for Insane Criminals in 1885. It was found that this name was objectionable as not all of the patients in the hospital were criminals, so the name was changed by legislative action to Ionia State Hospital.

The patients committed to this hospital were insane felons, criminal sexual psychopaths, insane convicts from other prisons, patients transferred from other state institutions that had developed dangerous or

homicidal tendencies and persons charged with a crime but acquitted on the grounds of insanity.

Initially the hospital patients were housed at the site of the Michigan Reformatory. The hospital was called the North Branch and the farm located on Riverside Drive was called the South Branch. When a large fire broke out at the hospital, all of the rooms were needed to house prisoners, so all of the hospital patients were sent to the South Branch farm. Since that time, the hospital has been located on the grounds of the Riverside Correctional Facility.

The hospital was used to treat the mentally ill as well as the criminally insane until 1972, when

-see **FACILITY**, page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

C/O Banquet.....	3
Benefits for Life.....	5
Energy Extras.....	7
Earth Day Quiz.....	8

Training Raises Awareness of Deaf Culture

Approximately 75 state employees from Parnall (SMT) and Southern Michigan (JMF) correctional facilities and Detroit and Jackson parole offices took part in training last month on how to deal with hearing impaired prisoners. Training was facilitated by representatives from the Division of Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth; the Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns and Division of Deaf and Hard of Hearing; and professional sign language interpreters. They provided employees with a brief understanding of the basics of sign language and the culture associated with being deaf or hard of hearing. While no one expected to walk away from the session being fluent in sign language and able to communicate flawlessly with prisoners who are hearing impaired, staff found that the training was a valuable way to learn more about the special needs of the inmates.



Shown here in a role-playing exercise, Parnall C/O Elizabeth McNamara (l.) shows Chris Hunter (r.) how she would communicate with a deaf person about a ticket by writing notes.

Hunter is the Director of the Division of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DODHH) for the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, and one of the class facilitators. Parnall Correctional Facility currently has 20 deaf and/or hard of hearing prisoners; Southern Michigan has one.

Facility, *continued from page 1*

civilians were removed from the hospital. In 1977, the Legislature transferred the operation to the Department of Corrections when it began operation as a correctional facility. The facility is scheduled to close with the reopening of the Michigan Reformatory.

Michigan Reformatory

At a legislative session in 1875, money was set aside to build the State House of Corrections at Ionia. In 1877 the first prisoners were transferred from Jackson Prison to assist with the building of this prison, which was opened for the confinement of the younger and less hardened offenders. It was completed in 1880. The prison was re-named in 1901 and is still known today as the Michigan Reformatory. By March 1929, the institution had a population of 2,200. Normal capacity of the prison was 1,148 and the overcrowded conditions were reflected in the riot of 1926.

Reformatory inmates were employed in various projects until 1935 when the sale of these projects to the public was prohibited. Articles that were made and sold until that time were shirts, soap, hosiery and furniture. There was also a large farm to raise meat and produce to be used by the prison inmates. The facility was closed in December of 2001, with most of the inmates housed there transferred to Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility. It is scheduled to reopen with the closing of Riverside Correctional Facility.

**source: MDOC and rootsweb.com*

Corrections Officer Banquet May 9

Modified Warden's Meeting Also Planned

MDOC Corrections Officers are getting their time to shine. The 2007 Corrections Officer Appreciation Banquet is about a week and a half away, scheduled for Wednesday, May 9 at the Kellogg Center on the Michigan State University campus. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m., with dinner and an awards presentation immediately following at 6:30 p.m. The banquet coincides with the regular warden's meeting, which is scheduled for May 8-9 at the west campus of Lansing Community College.

While the banquet is a highlight of the year and the warden's meeting a vital tool for information exchange, budgetary concerns led to frank discussions about whether both would have to be cancelled. After considering the costs associated with canceling at this late date and the importance of recognizing our staff, it was decided that it was important to go forward.

In addition, the Michigan Corrections Organization (MCO) generously stepped in and offered to help with the banquet by covering the price of banquet tickets for each facility's corrections officer of the year and a guest. Wardens and other department employees will purchase their own tickets for the event.

"I always tell people in my travels throughout the state of the difficult and critical job corrections officers have," said Patricia L. Caruso, MDOC director. "Even in tough budget times, it is important for us to recognize their contributions. I am continually proud to be the director of this department and represent such an outstanding group of people."

"MCO was a major player in starting the Corrections Officer Appreciation Banquet some 20 years ago," said Tom Tylutki, MCO president. "We are pleased to help continue an event that recognizes the importance of corrections officers not only to the department of corrections, but to the safety and security of our communities."

The warden's meeting will be two days instead of three in order to mitigate the costs. In addition, the October warden's meeting has been cancelled, and regional meetings may be scheduled in the future.

"At this critical time in our state and in our department, it is important that we come together to discuss issues and keep each other apprised of what is going on," said Dennis Straub, deputy director of Correctional Facilities Administration.

Crime Victims,

continued from page 1

The Michigan Department of Corrections, Crime Victim Services section continues to create awareness of victim's rights and the services we currently provide. The goal is to ensure registered victims receive timely written and telephone notifications, and to provide referral services to victims with specific needs for safety planning. Crime Victim Services provides these services with respect, compassion and confidentiality. If you believe you or someone you know can benefit from Crime Victim Services, please contact the office at (517) 373-4467.

(Crime Clock information found at the Office for Victims of Crime Web site, <http://www.ovc.gov>)

Crime Clock

Homicide	One person is murdered every 31 minutes.
Rape	One person is raped every 2.7 minutes.
Assault	One person is assaulted every 7.2 seconds.
Theft	One home is victimized by theft every 2.3 seconds.
Burglary	One home is burglarized every 9.2 seconds.
Domestic Violence	One woman is victimized by an intimate partner every 1.4 minutes. One man is victimized every 6.7 minutes.
Child Abuse and Neglect	One child is reported abused or neglected every 36 seconds.
Drunk Driving	One person is killed in an alcohol-related traffic crash every 31 minutes.
Identity Theft	One person becomes a victim of identity theft every 9 seconds.
Elder Abuse	One elderly person is victimized every 2.7 minutes.
Hate Crime	One hate crime is reported to the police every 55 minutes.

Employee Receives Prestigious Award

Congratulations to LaDean Watts-George, a department analyst in our Education section. She is a 2007 Distinguished Service Award winner from the state office of Adult Education in the Bureau of Career Education Programs. These prestigious awards recognize the exemplary contributions of an administrator, teacher, support staff member, literacy council tutor, partnership, and Best Practice of Adult, Community or Literacy Education in the State of Michigan. Watts-George received the Support Staff of the Year award.

"Over the past four years, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with LaDean in the MDOC's education section. During this time, she has demonstrated loyalty, professionalism and a positive attitude even in the most challenging and adverse situations," said Julie DeRose, Education Manager.

Watts-George worked with technical support staff to develop a statewide Offender Education Tracking System. She balances the needs of 25 school principals statewide in the areas of technical support, data, materials acquisition and grant management. She also provides insight to the curriculum committees and has formulated networks and alliances within and outside MDOC in order to better serve MDOC's 8,000-plus adult education population.



(l.-r.): Dianne M. Duthie, DLEG Director of the Office of Adult Education, LaDean Watts-George, Deb LaPine, DLEG Director of Career Education Programs.

"She is a dynamic speaker and works effectively with peers and administrators," DeRose said. "She has influenced positive change in the delivery of programming to our significant Adult Education population."

LETR/Special Olympics to Benefit from Cotton Cook-Off



Hot on the heels of a successful bake sale, the staff at G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility hosted their first Chili Cook-Off, held to raise monies for Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR)/Special Olympics. Officer Kimberly Dabner and ARUS Mike Strzyzewski coordinated the cook-off, along with a number of dynamic employees. The Grand Prize trophy winner is Acting Grievance Coordinator Cary Johnson, who made her White Chicken Chili – otherwise known as "Save a Cow." The 1st runner-up prize went to Officer Delbert Monroe for making his beef and steak w/beans chili. More than \$700 was raised in all.

(l.-r.): ADW Larry Ford, ARUS Mike Strzyzewski, Acting Grievance Coordinator Cary Johnson, RUO Delbert Monroe, C/O Kimberly Dabner, and Warden Doug Vabinder.

2007 *Benefits for Life* Optional Coverage Program

Benefits for Life, the employee-paid, optional coverage program offered to State of Michigan eligible employees, is designed to help you be safe, protected and prepared. The program offers you the opportunity to apply for coverage in key benefit areas and continue that coverage should you change jobs or retire.

There are many important enhancements to the **Benefits for Life** offerings in 2007 including a **Guaranteed Issue offering for Universal Life insurance** that give you more features, options and flexibility in choosing insurance coverage. Plan options include supplemental term life, critical illness, universal life and auto and home insurances.

Universal Life Insurance provides life insurance protection for the employee, spouse, children and grandchildren. This plan builds cash value with a variety of living benefits including long term care.

New Guaranteed Issue Coverage for Employees:

Only for open enrollment 2007, eligible employees ages 18-64 can buy universal life insurance on a Guaranteed Issue (GI) basis for \$10 per week up to \$70,000. Guaranteed Issue means you can obtain coverage without answering medical questions. If you did not enroll last year or your application was declined, you can apply for Guaranteed Issue coverage during this year's special enrollment opportunity.

Maximum Benefit Amount Increased to \$300,000:

The maximum benefit amount for you or your spouse increased from \$250,000 to \$300,000 on a Simplified Issue (SI) basis.

Long Term Care Benefit Rider Enhancements: The long term care benefit rider has been enhanced to provide a monthly benefit of 4% of the death benefit for up to 25 months for a medically necessary stay in an assisted living facility.

Critical Illness Insurance provides a lump sum cash benefit upon first diagnosis of a covered critical illness.

New Occupational HIV Benefit Rider: This rider provides a lump sum payment in the event an insured contracts HIV in conjunction with the performance of their normal occupational duties from a needle stick or sharp injury, or mucus membrane exposure.

Auto and Home Insurance provides coverage for your automobile(s), home and other types of personal insurance.

Increased Auto Insurance Discount: The auto insurance discount has increased from 5% to 10%.

Supplemental Term Life Insurance provides life insurance protection for the employee, spouse and children.

Guarantee Issue Enrollment Reminder: New hires enrolling for coverage when first eligible can receive up to \$180,000 Guarantee Issue (no medical questions). Employees who enrolled in 2006 can increase coverage during the 2007 enrollment period up to \$180,000 Guarantee Issue. Eligible employees who did not enroll when first eligible need evidence of insurability for any amount of coverage requested.

2007 Employee Education and Enrollment Process

The 2007 employee education and enrollment process will take place **April 23-May 31**. In many locations, benefits representatives will be available to conduct onsite group education meetings and/or meet individually with employees at your work location. During the meetings, the representative will provide information about the **Benefits for Life** plans and explain how to enroll. If you choose to meet individually with a representative you can obtain personalized rate quotes, have your questions answered and receive assistance in the enrollment process. With your supervisor's prior approval, you may use administrative leave to attend these meetings.

You will be notified of the available dates and meeting times for your location. A call center enrollment option will be made available to employees at locations where onsite meetings are not scheduled or for employees unable to attend a meeting. Look for worksite posters and information from your department for meeting dates and times at your location. You can visit the Department of Civil Service web site for more information about the program at <http://www.michigan.gov/mdcs>. Click on "Employee Benefits" in the left menu, then on "Voluntary Benefits."

Show Us Your Heart

An open letter to State employees from Terri Lynn Land, Secretary of State and Janet Olszewski, Director of the Department of Community Health:

Dear Colleague:

You can save the lives of fellow Michigan citizens by giving just a minute of your time. April is Donate Life Month in Michigan and across the nation. The observance heightens awareness of the critical need for organ donors.

As the Secretary of State and the Director of the Department of Community Health, we are asking you to consider participating in Michigan's "Show Us Your Heart" program by adding your name to the Michigan Organ Donor Registry. The registry, maintained by the Department of State, is a confidential database of residents who wish to be donors. It is accessed only by Gift of Life Michigan, the state's certified full-service organ recovery organization, to assist hospitals in the recovery and transplantation of organs and tissues.

Your simple, unselfish act can be a miracle for many of the more than 3,100 state residents who anxiously wait for transplants. Nationwide, more than 95,000 Americans are in need.

Just go to **www.michigan.gov/organdonation** and click on "Adding your name to the Michigan Organ Donor Registry" and enter the required information. Hit "Submit" and you're done -- that's all there is to it.

Once registered, you'll be mailed a sticker bearing a heart logo to affix to the front of your driver's license or personal identification card. The sticker informs medical personnel and emergency responders of your wish to be a donor. If you have registered before, please re-register so that you receive a donor sticker.

While joining the registry is legally binding, it's still a good idea to discuss your wishes with family. In fact, we hope you'll encourage family and friends to sign up as well.

Your decision to be an organ and tissue donor can save or enhance the lives of up to 50 people. So please don't wait. People die each day while waiting for transplants.

We all want a Michigan that's strong, vibrant - and healthy. Thank you in advance for "showing us your heart." Your gift of life, as well as your daily service to our great state, is deeply appreciated.

For more information about organ donation, visit **www.Michigan.gov/sos**.

Promotions Through April 7

CORRECTIONS TRNSPRTATN OFCR-E

GRAHAM, STACE L

EGELER

REGISTERED NURSE MANAGER-2

HUNTER, JOYCE A

COOPER ST

PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICER-E

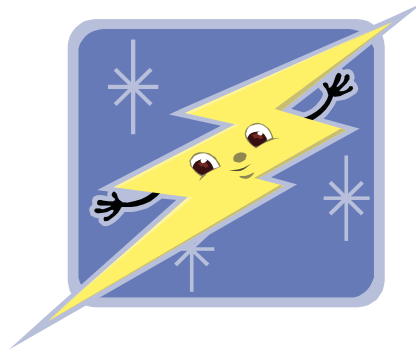
RICE, MELISA D

ROTHFUSS, JULIE A

FOA REGION III

FOA REGION II

MDOC Energy Extras



MDOC Energy Extras is a new regular feature for F.Y.I. Here we'll provide energy savings tips that can be used to reduce costs not only at work, but also at home.

Extra #2: Motion Sensors

As you know, the MDOC has been aggressively pursuing energy reduction measures. With the department's electric bill for fiscal year 2006 being over \$14.5 million and the projections for electrical costs to rise even further, the Physical Plant staff has targeted electricity as one of the top utilities for reduction in use. One way we're trying to do this is by implementing motion sensors.

Recent developments with motion sensor technology have made their use in prison settings – including inside the secure perimeter – a very reliable

possibility. It is important to install reliable detectors with certain safeguards and proper configurations. That way they can then be used not only to save on electrical costs, but also to enhance security.

Each facility is unique and poses individual concerns which need to be addressed independently. For example, the Physical Plant staff completed an energy study for motion detectors in the Central Office building in 2005. Once the study was finalized and the cost savings were proven, the sensors were installed. After a period of time to test the durability of the units, we introduced sensors into our prison setting at several locations. To date, we have installed approximately \$15,000 worth of the basic switch sensors throughout all levels of our facilities. We have not received notice of any failures and are unaware of any concerns. A typical administrative building could realize a cost savings from using motion sensors of about \$5,500 in a year.

We plan to be aggressive with electrical reduction measures, but need to be conscientious of safety, security and individual concerns. To help determine the quickest pay back and best locations to install motion sensors, Physical Plant staff will tour your facility and discuss electricity reduction possibilities. Anyone wishing to initiate such a tour should first get approval from their warden, then contact Jerry Elmblad at Elmblajr@michigan.gov.

Patriot Games

The employees at Standish Maximum Correctional Facility (SMF) recently provided a strong show of support for one of their co-workers who is serving in Iraq. C/O Patricia Gorges contacted the facility and asked if anyone would be willing to donate crayons, coloring books and sidewalk chalk for Iraqi children who help the soldiers with intelligence information. Apparently these types of items are scarce and very expensive to purchase in the store there.

SMF staffers went above and beyond Gorges' request. They collected and sent over 7 cases of toys, stuffed animals, games, puzzles, crayons, sidewalk chalk, candy, soccer balls, basketballs, kick balls, and many more items. Here (l.-r.) we have Officers Todd Wetters, Robert Schmidtke, Bobbie Tripp and Al DeShano with the collection.



April 22 is Earth Day!

Earth Day was first celebrated more than 30 years ago to raise awareness of the environment. How “green” can you get? Take this simple quiz, courtesy of **yahoo.com**. Give yourself one point for each statement that applies to you:

- I turn off the water while I brush my teeth.
- I carpool more than once a week.
- I drive a hybrid, electric, or other alternative fuel vehicle.
- I compost food waste from my kitchen and garden.
- I use solar power or buy “green” electricity.
- I recycle toxic items that require special handling such as paint, household cleansers, and batteries.
- When I leave a room, I remember to turn off the lights.
- I’ve weatherproofed my home, eliminating drafts from windows and doors.
- My dishwasher is used only when fully loaded.
- For local errands, I walk or bike.
- I keep my car’s tires inflated to improve fuel efficiency.
- I eat as much local produce as I can.
- At work, I turn off my computer screen when I’m away from my desk.
- My home has mostly compact fluorescent lightbulbs.
- I donate money or time to environmental organizations.

Scoring:

11-15 points: Congratulations, you are in the “eco-elite!” Concerned about the environment, you are already trying to keep your impact on our planet to a minimum. And even though you already do so much, there’s still more to do.

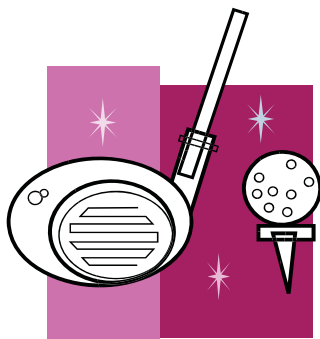
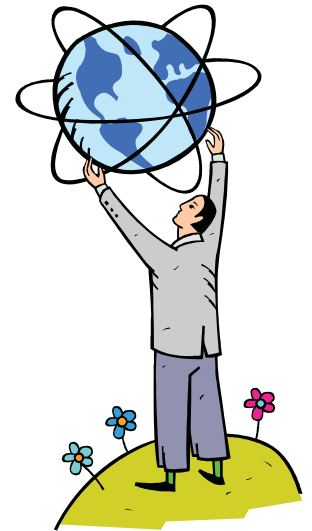
Tip: A good way of participating in forest conservation is to purchase only “certified sustainably grown” wood products, created from wood collected in sustainably managed forests.

6-10 points: Great job, keep up the recycling! Remember how much an individual can change the world.

Tip: Consider driving to your vacation destination if it’s reasonably close. Flying is the most polluting type of travel in terms of greenhouse gas emissions.

0-5 points: It’s never too late to start thinking long-term. Small changes can make a big difference over time.

Tip: Use the double-sided feature whenever you copy or print.



MAP Golf Scramble Scheduled

The Minority Advisory Panel (MAP) is gearing up for its 5th annual golf outing. The event will be at 10 a.m. on May 17th at the Royal Scot Golf Course in Lansing. The four-person scramble costs \$240 per team, which covers the cost of 18 holes of golf and the golf cart. Participation is limited to the first 36 teams who register, and entries must be submitted by May 10. For further information you may contact Nannette Norwood, MAP President at (616) 527-6331.